

STATUS OF CLAIMS

1.- 4. Canceled.

5. (currently amended) A method of installing a plurality of solar cell modules, comprising the steps of:

preparing a plurality of ~~types of~~ solar cell modules having an equal output voltage and different sizes; and

connecting positive and negative output lines of each solar cell module thus prepared to positive and negative cables, respectively, so as to connect the solar cell modules in parallel;

wherein the step of preparing the plurality of solar cell modules comprise mutually different numbers of solar cell sub-modules of an equal size; and comprises the steps of:

providing a power generating region wherein a predetermined output voltage is obtained by connecting a plurality of solar cells in series on a supporting member;

separating the power generating region in a direction crossing the direction of series connection of the solar cells on the supporting member;

obtaining solar cell sub-modules of equal size by connecting the power generating regions thus separated in series or parallel on the supporting member; and

preparing a plurality of supporting members on which mutually different numbers of solar cell sub-modules are formed and connecting the solar cell sub-modules in series or parallel on the supporting members thereby constructing the plurality of solar cell modules having an equal output voltage and different sizes

~~wherein the solar cell sub-modules comprise a plurality of power generating regions, each of which has a plurality of solar cells connected in series so as to obtain a predetermined output voltage, the respective power generating regions being separated in a direction crossing the direction of series connection of the solar cells.~~

6. (previously presented) A solar cell module comprising:

a supporting member;

a plurality of solar cell sub-modules mounted on said supporting member, each of said solar cell sub-modules including a glass substrate and a plurality of solar cells arranged on the substrate;

a wiring member for electrically connecting said solar cell sub-modules positioned next to each other on said supporting member; and

a moisture impermeable cover member, mounted on said supporting member, for covering said wiring member;

said wiring member being sealed in a resin between said supporting member and said cover member.

7. (currently amended) A solar cell module comprising:

a metal base;

a plurality of solar cell sub-modules mounted on said metal base, each of said solar cell sub-modules including a plurality of solar cells;

a raised portion which is provided at one of opposing side edges of said metal base and has a first engagement section at its end; and

a suspended portion which is provided at the other side edge and has at its end a second engagement section that comes into engagement with the first engagement section of other solar cell module;

wherein said solar cell sub-modules positioned next to each other are electrically connected to each other by a wiring member on said metal base, said raised portion has a base section provided parallel to a surface of said metal base, and the connection of said solar cell sub-modules by said wiring member is made between said metal base and said base section, said wiring member being sealed in a resin between said metal base and said base section, said resin also serving to bond together the metal base and base section.

8. (previously presented) The method of installing solar cell modules of claim 5, wherein the plurality of solar cell modules have mutually different internal wiring designs so as to obtain an equal output voltage.